

Service Date: January 9, 2014

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

IN THE MATTER OF the Application of) REGULATORY DIVISION
NorthWestern Energy for Hydro Assets)
Purchase) DOCKET NO. D2013.12.85

NOTICE OF COMMISSION ACTION

On December 20, 2013, NorthWestern filed its *Application for Hydro Assets Purchase* (Application) with the Montana Public Service Commission (PSC). On December 23, 2013, the PSC issued a *Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline and Initial Procedural Schedule* (Notice). The Notice established an intervention deadline of January 10, 2014, and requested that all parties attend a scheduling conference on January 13, 2014. The seventh paragraph of the Notice provided:

The PSC and any party may submit preliminary data requests to NorthWestern no later than **January 3, 2014**. NorthWestern must respond to preliminary data requests within ten (10) days of the service date of the data requests or by **January 10, 2014**, whichever is earlier. If an initial data request is objectionable or seeks confidential information, NorthWestern must respond accordingly and proceed to object or file a motion for protective order no later than the deadline to respond; if necessary, NorthWestern must file an updated response within seven (7) days of the PSC ruling on the objection or motion for protective order.

The PSC issued the following data requests to NorthWestern: (1) *Data Requests PSC-001 through PSC-035* on December 27, 2013; (2) *Data Requests PSC-036 through PSC-058* on January 2, 2014; and (3) *Data Requests PSC-059 through PSC-066* on January 3, 2014. The Montana Consumer Counsel (MCC) issued *Data Requests MCC-001 through MCC-015* to NorthWestern on January 3, 2014. Concurrent with this *Notice of Commission Action*, the PSC issued *Data Request PSC-067*.

On January 6, 2014, NorthWestern filed a *Motion for and Brief in Support of Reconsideration of Paragraph 7 of the Notice of Application and Intervention Deadline and Initial Procedural Schedule, or, in the Alternative, Motion for Extension of Time*.

On January 9, 2014, the PSC extended the deadline for NorthWestern to respond to the following data requests to January 17, 2014:

PSC-001	PSC-031
PSC-012(b)	PSC-032
PSC-015	PSC-034
PSC-016(d)-(e)	PSC-044(a)
PSC-018	PSC-049
PSC-027	PSC-059(c)
PSC-029	PSC-060(c)
PSC-030	PSC-067

The PSC also extended the deadline for NorthWestern to respond to any other data requests that have been issued to a date to be determined at the scheduling conference on January 13, 2014.

BY THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

W. A. (BILL) GALLAGHER, Chairman
BOB LAKE, Vice Chairman
KIRK BUSHMAN, Commissioner
TRAVIS KAVULLA, Commissioner
ROGER KOOPMAN, Commissioner